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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF

HIROSHI SUGITATSU, ET AL. : EXAMINER: MCNELIS, K. A.

SERIAL NO: 10/541,457 :

FILED: JULY 6, 2005 : GROUP ART UNIT: 1742

FOR: METHOD FOR REDUCING
CHROMIUM CONTAINING RAW
MATERIAL :

AMENDMENT

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313

SIR:

Responsive to the Office Action dated June 23, 2006, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the above-identified application in view of the following amendment and remarks.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Discussion of the Amendment begins on page 5 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 6 of this paper.